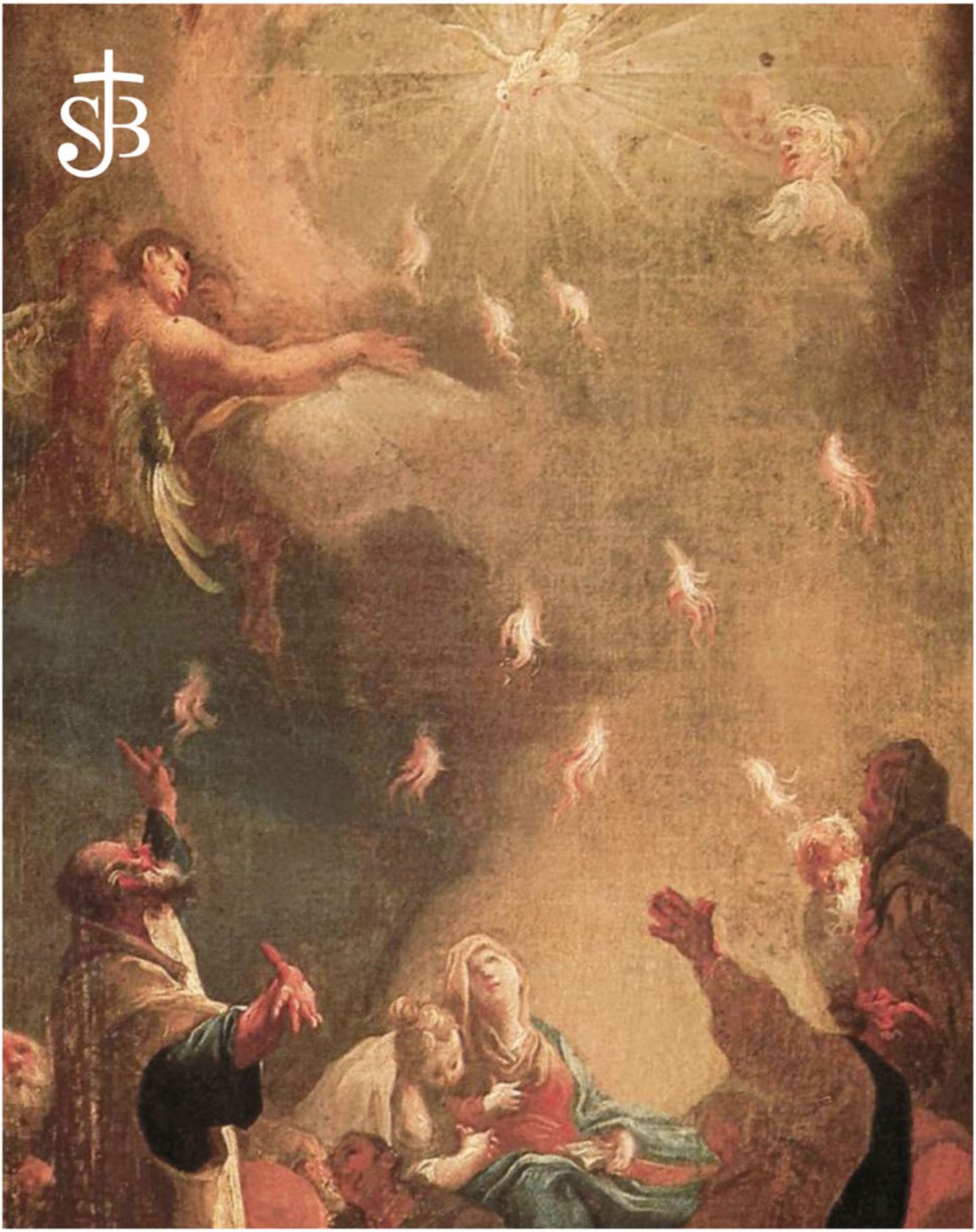

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church 411 Florence St Ypsilanti, MI 48197 734.483.3360
YpsiCatholic.org
August 17, 2025
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FROM OUR PASTORS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The words of Our Lord in the Gospel today may shock you. Jesus says very plainly, "Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." (Luke 12:51) This may sound at first like a contradiction. After all, didn't Jesus come to bring reconciliation, healing, and a restoration of communion between us and God and in our relationships with each other? Yes. So why does He say this about bringing division?

The division Jesus speaks of is what happens when a Christian unites their life to God's will and loses a relationship with someone who refuses to do the same. Jesus does want us to be one, to be totally united as though we are of one heart and one mind. But what is the rally-point of this unity? How do we know what is right and wrong? Some people think God doesn't care if we go to church. Others think He doesn't care how we live out our sexuality or relationships. Should we rally under their banner? Should we just decide to agree with each other's opinions—on anything from relationships to taxes? (For a very disappointing spoiler, read Mark 12:17 or Matthew 17:24.)

Hopefully the conclusion is obvious by now: we need Jesus' thoughts and teachings to be our rally-point of unity. If you have faith, you know what Jesus thinks—because He handed on His teachings to the apostles, and they've been handed down to us. Choosing to be of one heart and mind with Jesus is the only way to true unity. Jesus wants us to choose freely, but He desires that we would love Him with all our hearts and all our minds. I pray that you'll have the courage to let God's Word renew your mind so that you care more about what He thinks than what anyone else—even yourself—thinks.

Blessings,

Fr. Dan

PLEASE NOTE:

August 19th is the last day we will have the Tuesday 8:00 AM Mass.

MASS TIMES

Monday	12:15 PM
Tuesday	6:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM
Thursday	8:00 AM
Friday	12:15 PM
Saturday	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM
	11:00 AM

9:00 AM Mass Livestreamed here

Recitation of the Rosary is held after daily Mass, Wednesday through Saturday.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

In the Adoration Chapel

Tuesday 9:00 AM-5:45 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM-9:00 PM
Friday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

First Friday of the Month
Friday-1:00 PM through Saturday 7:45 AM

CONFESSION

Monday	11:00 AM
Tuesday	6:30 PM
Friday	11:00 AM
Saturday	3:30 PM

REGISTRATION FOR FAMILY FORMATION

NOW OPEN!

Family Formation is for all families—whether your kids are infants, high schoolers, or in between. We meet every 1st and 3rd Sunday, after the 11am Mass, during the school year, to grow as disciples in community, together as a family. Each afternoon includes:

- Brunch
- Family Praise & Worship
- Age-Specific Catechesis for kids and teens, Adult Formation through talks and small group discussion
- Monthly at-home materials to support parents as the primary catechists of their children

Family Formation is an essential part of preparing for First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation. All families are encouraged to participate—including those whose children attend Catholic school or homeschool.

SCAN THE QR CODE
OR REGISTER AT
YPSICATHOLIC.ORG/FAMILY-FORMATION

FAMILY FORMATION TESTIMONY

Our family has been blessed to participate in Family Faith Formation since it was introduced at SJB. To say it has been amazing, is an understatement! The inclusion of the entire family makes a big difference!

Our nine children range from 2-21 years old, and each one has directly benefited from FFF at SJB. My husband and I have as well! We have met amazing lifelong friends that are walking similar life paths, strengthened existing friendships, been blessed with inspiring conversations and experiences, and have been encouraged to make time to be the primary catechists of our children.

Our children attend fantastic Catholic schools, and I am confident in their faith education, but the weekly/monthly lessons and activities in the FFF program have supplemented their formation and strengthened their confidence and relationships within our parish family. The sense of community that I see developing in each one of our children is truly beautiful! The environment is always the littles. As a mom, this is so appreciated. It is such a gift to spend time together loving and growing even deeper in love with Jesus!

We remain thankful for our parish, priests, and staff. Thank you for supporting families!

-Sherry Gentit

SJ Beat

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
COMMUNITY LIFE AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

We're excited to kick off another amazing season of faith, fellowship, and formation here at St. John the Baptist! As summer winds down, we're gearing up for a full lineup of events to bring our parish family together and deepen our walk with Christ.

All Night Adoration— On the first Friday of the month, come spend time in quiet prayer and encounter the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. This is a sacred space for rest, renewal, and listening for God's voice speaking into your heart.

Men's Breakfast— On the second Saturday of the month, the men of the parish gather for food, fellowship, and real conversation about faith and life. Strength for your journey and building of brotherhood.

Worship Night— On the third Friday of the month we lift our voices and hearts together in praise! Come experience powerful worship music, prayer, and the presence of God in a dynamic, spirit-filled evening.

Women's Breakfast— Join us for a morning of community, inspiration, and great. It's a beautiful way to connect with other women of faith and be nourished in spirit.

Holy Brews— On October 1st, Holy Brews returns! On the first Wednesday of each month, we gather at the Ypsi Alehouse for casual, faith-centered conversations over pints and a peck. Bring your questions, bring a friend and join us for a talk about the things that matter most. Each evening features a guest speaker, followed by a lively Q&A.

NEXT MONTH

ALL-NIGHT ADORATION
FRIDAY, September 5th,
1pm through
SATURDAY, September 6th,
7:45am
in the Adoration Chapel

MEN'S BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, September 13th
after the 8am Mass
downstairs in the PLC

WORSHIP NIGHT
FRIDAY, September 19th
6:30pm
downstairs in the PLC

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, September 27th
after the 8am Mass
downstairs in the PLC

HOLY BREWS
WEDNESDAY, October 1st
7pm
Ypsi Alehouse
124 Pearl St #100
Ypsilanti, MI

JOIN THE SJB TEAM!

We are currently seeking a
PART TIME COMMUNICATIONS
COORDINATOR

From our Communications Coordinator,

As I prepare to transition out of this role, I'd like to share what a gift it has been to serve as the Communications Coordinator here at St. John the Baptist.
This position has helped me grow tremendously in my faith. I've had the joy of using my creativity to serve the Church, sharing the Gospel through digital and print media, and supporting the mission of our parish in meaningful ways. From designing bulletins and writing articles to capturing the beauty of parish life, it's been both fun and fulfilling.

What makes this role truly special is the people. I've been blessed to work alongside a team that is not only talented but deeply rooted in prayer and guided by the Holy Spirit. We genuinely care for one another, and I believe we've assembled the best team—united in faith and committed to serving our community.

If you're passionate about communication, creativity, and the Catholic faith, I encourage you to apply. This isn't just a job—it's a vocation and a beautiful way to serve the Church.

To see qualifications and to apply scan the QR code or visit dioceseoflansing.org/human-resources/careers

CAMPUS MINISTRY TESTIMONY

SISTERS IN CHRIST

Our friendship is a friendship born out of love for the Lord and a deep longing to know Him more. We met each other for the first time at SJB Campus Ministry where we were in the same small group. Two years ago we decided to be accountability buddies in a Lenten retreat. This involved sharing homemade meals, praying with the Gospel, discussing what God was doing in our lives, and interceding for each other and the people we loved. This experience allowed us to get to know each other on a deeper level which has allowed our friendship to blossom till now. After the retreat we continued to support each other in our faith, spent a lot of social time together, and went on fun mini-adventures. Now, we both walk through life knowing that we are sisters in Christ, willing to support each other in our pursuit of God.

Patricia Woghiren and Mariana Miller

SEEKING CATECHISTS FOR FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Family Faith Formation at St. John the Baptist is looking for passionate, faith-filled individuals to serve as catechists for our Sunday afternoon sessions — just two times per month.

Whether you're:

- A parent of a child already attending
- Someone who loves working with kids
- A person who feels called to serve the Church

— we'd love for you to join our team!

As a catechist, you'll help children deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and build a personal relationship with God. Sessions include prayer, group discussions, games, crafts, and other fun, faith-enriching activities.

No teaching experience? No problem. We provide full training and a complete curriculum — all you need is a heart for Christ and His children.

Must be a Catholic in good standing and open to learning and growing in your own faith. Interested? Have questions?
Contact Jacob at jacobg@ypsicatholic.org

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

JOIN IN THE WONDER OF THE 3-6 YEAR OLD CHILD

Mark your calendars, CGS returns to SJB next month! Every week in the Atrium, a room containing beautiful, hands-on materials, —the child's attention is focused on key Scripture passages or liturgical moments. The 3-6 year old child enters the mystery of the Eucharist, first by learning the names of the articles used on the altar, and then through the most important gestures, including the preparation of the chalice, the epiclesis and offering, and the sign of peace.

Registration is now open!

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER

CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH US!

Our annual SJBash is almost here — and you won't want to miss it! Join us for an evening of faith, food, and family fun! We'll kick things off with Mass at 6PM, followed by dinner, games, and activities for all ages.

Volunteers needed — come be part of the fun behind the scenes! Just contact Alaina Smith: alaina.l.smith@gmail.com

FRIDAY,
AUGUST 29TH
BEGINNING WITH MASS AT 6PM

FALL BIBLE STUDIES

A full listing of our Fall Bible Studies is now available at our website. Scan the QR code or visit YpsiCatholic.org/ bible-study.

NEW FALL SESSIONS! OUR "WHAT THE CHURCH TEACHES" SERIES CONTINUES...

The "What the Church Teaches" series is our answer to OCIA. Whether you're new and just exploring the Catholic faith or are a lifelong Catholic looking to go deeper, you're warmly invited to join us!

Summer sessions still to come:

Aug 18TH - Church History

SEPT 8TH- Welcome, Intro, & Tour of Church

SEPT 15TH- Why Do I Need the Church? The Mystery of the Catholic Church

---

SO MANY GOOD THINGS STARTING THIS FALL!

JOIN THE SJB MAILING LIST

Stay up to date on the latest Mass schedules, events, formation opportunities and ministries. We're on a mission to create community and connect people— to each other, and to God. Sign up, stay in the know, and get involved! We promise not to flood your inbox. :)

SACRAMENTS

MATRIMONY
Couples should contact the parish office to inquire about Marriage Formation as soon as they are engaged.

BAPTISM
Parents are required to attend a preparation session and must be registered parishioners for at least three months. Pre-registration is required. Please call the parish office for more information.

LAY MINISTER INFORMATION
If you are interested in serving as a Liturgical Minister or wish to update your schedule preferences, please submit your request by email to schedule@ypsicatholic.org.

REQUESTING MASS INTENTIONS
Call or visit the parish office to ask for a special day. Weekday and weekend Masses are available. The stipend for a Mass intention is $10. Mass cards are also available.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK
Please call the parish office for more information.

FUNERALS
Please call the parish office for more information.

OFFICE PHONE
734-483-3360

JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR...

Katie (O'Toole) Davis
Kris Kapcia
Ann Marie Rusiniak
Kailyn Fitzgerald
Dorothy Chan
Philip Philipose
Shibu Philipose
Gemma Almendras
Jake Meyer
Pfc. Carter Hornbeck
Caroline Stramecky

Please call the office if you would like to add a name to the list of intercessions for healing or for men and women in the armed forces. Names will be removed after four weeks unless we receive a request to continue.

Remember also that our Book of Petitions is located in The Gathering Space. These intercessions are prayed for at every Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, AUGUST 18
12:15 PM: Intentions of Fr. Dan Westermann
Requested by The Muczynski Family

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19
8 AM:

6:00 PM: † Joanne Renterghem
Requested by Natalie Klackle

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20
12:15 PM: For the Deceased Members of the Nwanyanwu, Nweke, & Okwunweze Family
Requested by Maria Okwunweze

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21
8:00 AM:

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22
12:15 PM: Increase in Vocations

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23
8:00 AM:

5 PM:

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24
9:00 AM:People of the Parish

11 AM: † Carl & Beverly Czupinski
Requested by Gary & Shelly Czupinski

NEEDED, WANTED, & AVAILABLE

SJB is giving away the following tech equipment:

- 4x AP2000G Amped Wireless Router
- 1x APA2600M Amped Wireless Router
- 1x ML1430 Samsung Printer
- 1x JTDAT5CH J-Tech HDMI to RCA Audio Converter

First come, first served!
Call the office at 734-483-3360

GIVE ONLINE

ypsicatholic.org/give

Enkindle in us the Fire of Your Love

POPE FRANCIS | ANGELUS | SAINT PETER'S SQUARE

Sunday, 14 August 2016

The Gospel for this Sunday (Lk 12:49-53) is part of Jesus' teachings to the disciples during his journey to Jerusalem, where death on the cross awaits him. To explain the purpose of his mission, he takes three images: fire, baptism and division. Today I wish to talk about the first image: fire.

Jesus expresses it with these words: "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled!" (v. 49). The fire that Jesus speaks of is the fire of the Holy Spirit, the presence living and working in us from the day of our Baptism. It — the fire — is a creative force that purifies and renews, that burns all human misery, all selfishness, all sin, which transforms us from within, regenerates us and makes us able to love. Jesus wants the Holy Spirit to blaze like fire in our heart, for it is only from the heart that the fire of divine love can spread and advance the Kingdom of God. It does not come from the head, it comes from the heart. This is why Jesus wants fire to enter our heart. If we open ourselves completely to the action of this fire which is the Holy Spirit, He will give us the boldness and the fervor to proclaim to everyone Jesus and his consoling message of mercy and salvation, navigating on the open sea, without fear.

In fulfilling her mission in the world, the Church — namely all of us who make up the Church — needs the Holy Spirit's help so as not to let herself be held back by fear and by calculation, so as not to become accustomed to walking inside of safe borders. These two attitudes lead the Church to be a functional Church, which never takes risks. Instead, the apostolic courage that the Holy Spirit kindles in us like a fire helps us to overcome walls and barriers, makes us creative and spurs us to get moving in order to walk even on uncharted or arduous paths, offering hope to those we meet. With this fire of the Holy Spirit we are called to become, more and more, communities of people who are guided and transformed, full of understanding; people with expanded hearts and joyful faces.

Now more than ever there is need for priests, consecrated people and lay faithful, with the attentive gaze of an apostle, to be moved by and to pause before hardship and material and spiritual poverty, thus characterizing the journey of evangelization and of the mission with the healing cadence of closeness. It is precisely the fire of the Holy Spirit that leads us to be neighbours to others, to the needy, to so much human misery, to so many problems, to refugees, to displaced people, to those who are suffering.

At this moment I am thinking with admiration especially of the many priests, men and women religious and lay faithful who, throughout the world, are dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel with great love and faithfulness, often even at the cost of their lives. Their exemplary testimony reminds us that the Church does not need bureaucrats and diligent officials, but passionate missionaries, consumed by ardour to bring to everyone the consoling word of Jesus and his grace. This is the fire of the Holy Spirit. If the Church does not receive this fire, or does not let it inflame her, she becomes a cold or merely lukewarm Church, incapable of giving life, because she is made up of cold and lukewarm Christians. It will do us good today to take five minutes to ask ourselves: "How is my heart? Is it cold? Is it lukewarm? Is it capable of receiving this fire?". Let us take five minutes for this. It will do everyone good.

LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE
AUGUST 23RD & AUGUST 24TH

	SATURDAY 5:00 PM	SUNDAY 9:00 AM	SUNDAY 11:00 AM
USHERS	Fred Burdick Jeff Decker Need Volunteer Need Volunteer	Carolyn Bradley Stephen Bradley Jude Lussier Christine Sullivan	Fred Hall Carol Wack Andy Winnie Vince Zahm
GREETERS	Need Volunteer Need Volunteer	Marie Lenhardt Need Volunteer	Wendy Winnie Need Volunteer
LECTORS	Kathy Badgerow Tom Moffit	Sarah Scholl John Yurko	David Stolarski Theresa Urbanic
SACRISTAN	ADULT: Therese Lasswell JUNIOR: Need Volunteer	ADULT: Need Volunteer JUNIOR: Need Volunteer	ADULT: Melissa Florian JUNIOR: Need Volunteer
ALTAR SERVERS	Kellan Gentit Need Volunteer Need Volunteer	Mathias Gentit Damien Lussier Matthew Yurko	Stefano Patti Walter Reister Michael Stolarski

We are always in need of Ushers, Greeters, Junior Sacristans, and Altar Servers.

OFFICE HOURS AND INFO

PARISH OFFICE

411 Florence Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.483.3360
www.ypsicatholic.org

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
(Closed for lunch 12:00- 1:00)

CEMETERY

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734.368.7949

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Dcn. Curtis Scholl, Permanent Deacon
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Business Manager
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Liz Barber, Bookkeeper
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Anna Wells, Receptionist
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Tracy Pope, Facilities Manager
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Marriage Coordinator
weddings@ypsicatholic.org

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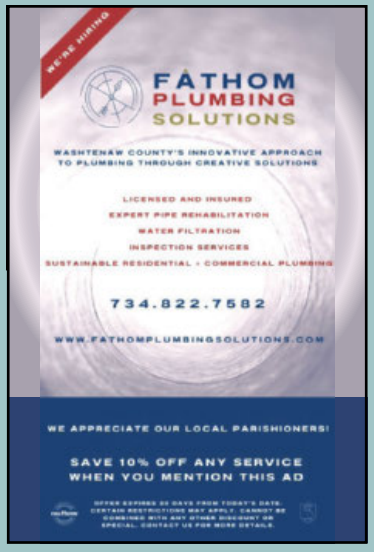

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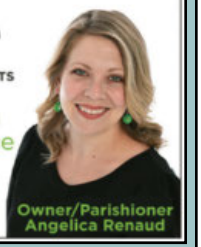
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